

THE COMPASS

The Gainesville College Student Newspaper

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gccompass.com

November 25, 2003

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MICHELE HESTER / Compass Staff

Loren Gravett tried his skill at the 35-foot rock wall once he found out that the Campus Activity Board would award a \$50 prize to the first climber to reach the top of the most difficult side.

Full Story, Page 8

Degree from GC is Worth \$1 Million

By Michele Hester

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Gainesville College students can expect to earn almost \$1 million more than their non-college educated counterparts.

In a recent study of nearly 90,000 University System of Georgia students who graduated between 1993 and 1997, Georgia Tech researchers found that the increased earnings due to college degrees boosted the state's economy by adding \$1.25 billion in 1998.

The study goes on to say GC graduates earn approximately \$8,000 more per year than individuals with only a high school degree, which over the course of a lifetime is over \$1 million.

Martha Nesbitt, GC president, said, "There is no question that higher education is an economic benefit for both the individual and society. I am proud of Gainesville College's efforts that have served Northeast Georgia so well in this regard."

Please see **\$1 MILLION**, Page 3

Change in Activity Hour Proposed

By Blake Duncan

News Editor

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The Gainesville College Academic Delivery committee is reviewing a formal proposal to change the Student Activity hour from noon on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays to

12:15-1:15 p.m. on Tuesdays and Thursdays.

Dean Stoy raised the proposition in an effort to better utilize class space and faculty members' time on the three days currently holding activity hours.

The proposal is under review as the committee searches for a way to optimize class space and

size on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays to compensate for growing student enrollment.

The Academic Delivery committee has spoken with division heads and faculty members about the proposed change to the activity hour, gauging responses of opposition or support. Although the

change is still in proposal form, the committee has seen no real opposition.

The committee has time to discuss the options it faces.

The deadline for a decision will come with the finalization of the fall semester schedule, which should be around February 2004.

NEWS BRIEFS

Odor Near Student Center Pinpointed

The nasty odor lingering near the Student Center and spreading around campus is originating from the base of certain trees around campus. The female ginkgo tree, which is located on campus, bears fruit in the later months of the year that falls off and rots, creating the odor. The ginkgo tree is the oldest living species of tree.

UN Debate Draws Crowd in CE Building

On Oct. 20, four GC faculty members held a debate concerning US involvement with the UN. Douglas Ealey and Elizabeth Hancock both argued for a stronger US role in the UN while Douglas Young and Dale Crandall opposed a stronger role. Approximately 200 students attended the debate.

Chestatee Review Deadline Is Dec. 5

The Chestatee Review, GC's award-winning literary magazine, has set a deadline for submissions of short stories and poems. Entries must be typed and double-spaced and submitted to Tom Sauret in Academic II by noon Dec. 5.

Wireless Spot Now in Dunlap/Mathis

A wireless hot spot in the student lounge in the Dunlap/Mathis building has been added for laptop computer users.

By Lauren Fuqua

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B-average students across the state have used HOPE Scholarship it to go to college, but now it is under review, and the standards for attaining it are changing.

The HOPE Scholarship Joint Study Commission decided in its October meeting that the scholarship should eliminate payment for fees and books. If the state legislature, set to convene in January, agrees on this proposal, actions could begin as early as next fall, affecting current HOPE recipients.

Currently, HOPE pays for \$300 of books and anywhere from \$200-\$900 fees per semester.

Alaina Dooley, a freshman at Georgia State, is upset about the proposal. "Books get expensive. I already have to pay an additional \$300 or so per semester."

The proposal to cut payment for fees and books could save nearly \$120 million per year. It is estimated that costs will begin to exceed revenues as early as the year 2006. The cost of HOPE in 2003 alone exceeded \$350 million. In 2007, the shortfall between available lottery funds, the combined cost of HOPE and

pre-K is predicted to be more than \$221 million, according to the HOPE Scholarship Joint Study.

Ben Barteaux, in his third year at Georgia College and State University, lost the HOPE only a year after he started college.

He feels the HOPE really helped him, and he is now struggling for money. Barteaux said, "Now I have to work a full time job just to make up for the extra \$1500 a semester."

Other proposals to save money include the linking of SAT scores, limiting the college hours covered by HOPE, and instituting a family

income cap. The HOPE scholarship, announced in 1992 and formally known as the Helping Outstanding Pupils Educationally scholarship, had a family income cap of \$66,000 per year.

It was later raised to \$100,000 per year before finally being eliminated altogether.

"My family doesn't make that much money," commented Ashley Reeves, a sophomore at North Gwinnett High School. "But without HOPE I can't go to college. I need all the help I can get."

There is no agreement yet on the linking of SAT scores. Many feel that the test is unfair.

Technology Challenges Returning Students

By Kevin Moss

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There was a time, before Bill Gates took over the world, when the traditional student defined a megabyte as a very large mouthful of food.

Today's traditional students can not only tell you what a megabyte is, they can tell you all about Zip drives, hard drives, Pentium Processors, MP3s, USB ports, Instant Messaging, DVD/CDRW's, software pirating, MPEGs, JPEGs, wireless communication, data bases, e-commerce, hyperlinks, and the list goes on and on like the never-ending chain of 1's and 0's that define today's educational environment.

With traditional students growing up in a technology-driven society, where does this place GC's nontraditional student among the computer elite?

"I don't feel I have the background to compete with a younger generation, but I feel comfortable with where I'm at," says Paul Garner, 41, a current GC student.

Garner attributes his optimism to real-life work experience, a commodity equally as valuable as any degree offered to students.

So what other advantages does growing up without the benefits of the internet and other technologies offer?

"I think the younger generation relies too much on technology. Where it can hurt them is in the area of problem solving," said Dana Riley, a returning student who says technology has made the transition back to student life easier. "I've also raised a family, so I think that gives me a bit of an edge."

James Yeomans, a member of the Second Wind club, agrees, "When we were in school there was no technology. You had to use your mind and your own resources in order to get a problem solved."

"With the availability of so much technology, it's hard to teach critical thinking and problem solving without using the technology."

And with introductory technology courses being offered, nontraditional students are finding their way through



MICHELE HESTER / Compass Staff

Rebar Amedi majors in Web design at GC. He works at the student help desk in the ACTT Center, assisting technology-challenged students almost on a daily basis.

today's fast paced educational environment with relative ease.

"I originally thought I was going to be the old lady on campus," says Tina Worthington, a Second Wind member. "But I have found that is totally not true. It's a comfort to know there are people who are doing the same things I'm doing." Yeoman adds, "They have a class called CISM 1502 which is fantastic. It teaches you web page design, excel, word, access, all of that. It's taught from a ground base."

So the question begs to be asked: Have traditional students become lazy?

Anyone can punch a few keys and get from point A to point B, right?

But do students today lack the necessary skills to tackle life's everyday problems? It seems that way to some of GC's older students.

"I feel like students today live in a world I don't want to live in," says Pauline Peters, a GC student and mother of two.

Courtesy Phones Removed to Save Money

By Lauren Coffee
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Three courtesy phones around campus may be hung up soon due to budget cuts and an increase in cell phone use.

The phones in the Dunlap/Mathis building, Science building and the Physical Education complex are the ones scheduled to be removed at the end of this semester.

Although the courtesy phones may be convenient to use, the cost per phone is devouring the budget of the Student Government Association.

According to SGA president Justin Freeman, there are 15 courtesy phones scattered throughout the campus that cost about \$300 per month and \$3600 per year to maintain.

Alicia Caudill, director of Student Activities, said, "That is why we surveyed students about the phones to determine how they would like for their money to be spent."

Most students said they use their cell phones for social calls or in times of an emergency. But others expressed concerns that not every college student can afford to pay a cell phone every month.

"It is not a good idea (to take out the courtesy phones) because not all students can afford a cell phone to use if something was to happen and they needed to get a hold of someone," said Kassie Davis, a journalism major from Homer.

Although cell phone use has increased in the last few years, there are still a number of students that do not have a cell phone and

depend on the courtesy phones to make a call.

But Freeman says there is no need to worry about the courtesy phones becoming extinct.

"We would never remove all of the courtesy phones," he said. "We are proposing to remove the least used phones so that we can put the money back into the SGA program and benefit the students in greater ways."

Earlier this year, Student Activities placed limits on the courtesy phones due to rising costs.

As of March 5, no long-distance or international phone calls could be made on the courtesy phones.

However, students can make a long-distance call on any of the pay phones located in the Continuing Education building, the library or the Student Center.



MICHELE HESTER / Compass Staff

April Landry uses the courtesy phone in the student lounge in the Dunlap/Mathis building.

Students may also go to the Student Activities office to place a long distance call at no charge if it is an absolute emergency.

For questions concerning the courtesy phones located around campus, call Student Activities at (770) 718-3622.

Writers Wanted For Review

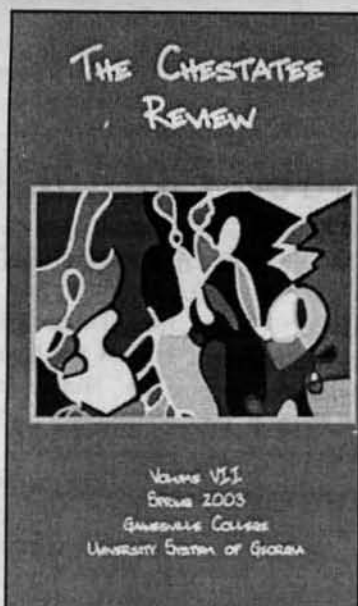
By Kassie Davis
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The *Chestatee Review*, a student-produced magazine, is looking for original poems, short stories, plays, interviews, line and charcoal drawings, photographs and paintings created by GC students for its Spring 2004 edition.

Margaret Burriss, a journalism major from Oakwood, said, "The magazine is a good idea. It gives amateur writers with a little experience a chance to get published."

The popular GC magazine was most recently the third place winner in the Southern Division of the 2000 Literary Magazine Competition presented by the Community College Humanities Association and second place in the Southern Literary Festival Association contest.

Tom Sauret, advisor of the *Chestatee Review*, says, "We actually evaluate what works



Chestatee Review Spring 2003

are handed in. We only accept the best, and not everybody gets their work published."

Work submitted will be considered for cash prizes, ranging from \$25 to \$100, in the following categories: short story, informal essay, formal essay, and poetry. Winners are announced at the Lanier Writers' Conference,

held the last Thursday in February each year. The first- and second-place winners in each category are submitted to the Southern Literary Festival Association annual contest.

All submissions must be typed, double-spaced and submitted to Tom Sauret before noon Dec. 5.

For students also interested in producing the magazine, ENGL 2802 is available next semester. It offers student instruction in writing, editing, and designing a creative arts magazine.

Michele Hester, a journalism major from Cumming who signed up for the Spring 2004 class, says, "I have learned a lot working on the school newspaper and I'm now looking forward to getting some magazine experience."

For information regarding submissions or ENGL 2802, please email Tom Sauret at tsauret@gc.peachnet.edu or phone at (770) 718-3674.

\$1 Million

Continued from page 1

Justin Freeman, an electronic engineering technology major and president of the Student Government Association, was not at all surprised by the study's findings.

"Among two-year colleges, Gainesville College has some of the highest standards. We just won the 'Best Practices' award a few weeks ago," he said.

Freeman will graduate from GC at the end of spring semester and plans to pursue his bachelor's degree at Georgia Tech.

"Students from GC usually have a good chance of getting into Georgia Tech," Freeman said, "because GC properly prepares students."

One of the reasons many GC students effortlessly transfer into four-year universities is that GC offers a wide range of associate's degrees. Almost 60 percent of students enrolled in GC during Fall 2003 are studying programs

in divisions such as business, science engineering technology and social sciences. A review of all GC students who graduated in Spring 2003 showed that 51 percent of the class earned degrees in one of these areas.

Emily Zomer, a first-semester student from Cumming, has always wanted a career where she helps people.

"I am majoring in pre-physical therapy," she said. "Gainesville was my first choice. I knew I could not get in another college with my GPA, but Gainesville is preparing me well for my transfer to North Georgia."

Denise Allen, an accounting major from Lawrenceville, also plans to transfer to North Georgia upon graduation from GC.

"I am not surprised by the number of business majors at GC. My classes are always full," Allen said. "A two-year business degree from GC will make the transition into a four-year college much easier."

GC Staff Member to Appear on Jeopardy



Heather Daniels recently spoke to Gay Hammond about Gainesville Theatre Alliance and Hammonds upcoming appearance on Jeopardy.

How long have you been working with Gainesville Theatre Alliance?

I've been with GTA since we moved here in 1990, so 13 years, but I've been with GTA's WonderQuest for 11 years.

What do you do with GTA?

I serve as dramaturge or period styles consultant, which has to do with the words, history and literary merit. Sometimes I work on scripts; I wrote the adaptation for "The Tempest," "Servant of Two Masters" and I'm writing the new script for "Dracula." Sometimes I act, like with "Anything Goes" and sometimes I direct, like I directed "The Tempest." I'm the director of GTA's WonderQuest.

How did you find out about the auditions for Jeopardy?

I auditioned in the spring. They came through Atlanta and my kids told me about it because we tease each other a lot about it. One of my life goals was to be on Jeopardy.

What did you have to do to become a contestant on Jeopardy?

I went online to look up the number and registered. Then they call you back if they want you to take a test. And so I took the test. You go through a series of tests and if you pass they put your name on a list to call back. They called me back, so I tape on Dec. 2 in California. I don't know when it will be airing.

What are your best categories?

My best categories are Literature, Movies, Theatre, all the Humanities subjects, some History, but I'm not really good with American Government, Sports trivia, or Geography. So if it's like the Cabinet or American Presidents or rivers in Slovakia then I'm in real bad shape.

Skunk Show Held in Gym

By Scott McIntyre
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Contributing Writers

Ninety-nine skunks and over 200 people crowded the Gainesville College gym Saturday Nov. 1 for the ninth annual Supreme National Skunk Show sponsored by the Georgia and South Carolina chapters of the American Domestic Skunk Association, Inc.

"We needed some place that was centrally located to the hotels, and had good parking," said Ginny Laut president and founder of the American Domestic Skunk Association Inc. "The campus is beautiful."

The skunks were judged on friendliness, overall conformation, best of color, prettiest tail, and unusual markings.

"The association was formed out of a necessity to show people how to take care of their domestic skunks," said Jennifer Husted, secretary of the Georgia chapter. "To teach owners what will harm and what won't harm their skunks."



Pictured above are Debbie Rogers and her skunk Jasper, one of 99 skunks that was entered in the show.

The life span of a skunk in the wild is two to three years. As domestic pets, a skunk can live to be 10 to 12 years old.

"I got my first two skunks four years ago and nothing else compares to being owned by a skunk," said Debbie Rogers from Lawrenceville. "Skunks are usually cleaner and less odorous than dogs and cats."

Rogers has been showing skunks since 1999 and has won

several ribbons, trophies and a juvenile national championship.

"I told my wife I would like to have a skunk and she bought one," said Mike Lowery, "My cats clean them and my Shihtzu plays with the youngest one."

He and his skunks have won overall national championships, adult and senior championships, and his skunk Chaos has been given "best albino" honors for two years running.

Language Classes Get Mixed Reviews

By Susan Schlegal
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Most students struggle to meet a foreign language requirement, but for those wishing to learn something other than Spanish or French the struggle is of a much greater magnitude.

Those students wanting to enroll in an uncommon language class must understand that the way these classes are taught is anything but traditional.

These courses are taught using the NASILP methodology. NASILP, or the National Association of Self Instructed Language Programs gives students a new way of learning a less common foreign language.

They are different from traditional classes in that they are basically self-taught. Students are drilled in vocabulary and learn through audiotapes, CDs, and workbooks. "It takes a special kind of student to take a course this way," said Chaudron Gille, associate professor of French, and NASILP Coordinator. "Students have to really take charge of the material and work through it."

Students in NASILP classes have mixed views on the program. Kristy Godfrey, a German student from Gainesville said "not enough is actually taught in class, you have to teach yourself; I prefer a taught class." Heather Jackson, a history major and NASILP student agrees "this format makes studying much more intense."

Perhaps the most difficult part is that almost all of a student's final grade is calculated from one test. Quiz and homework grades are nonexistent. There are no tests during the semester except a final oral exam at the end.

"Written tests don't test your speech. We could probably go to the country whose language we are studying and with much ease understand them and be understood in return," said Colin Mackenzie, a NASILP student from Dawsonville.

Possibly the biggest difference a student will see is that there is not a professor. "When you go into a classroom it is not a professor with you" Gille said "but a native speaker of that language."

Gainesville College currently offers Japanese, German, advanced French and Russian. Chinese will be offered next semester.

Create Music with Fun Flicks

By Blake Duncan

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Have you ever wondered how your favorite music videos were made? How about your favorite movie stunt scenes?

Fun Flicks came to Gainesville College to answer those questions on Nov. 3.

Fun Flicks, a unit of Kramer Entertainment, is a traveling special effects studio from Grand Rapids, Mich.

A green screen covering one wall and the floor was set up in the student center and lined on both sides by projectors, stacks of electronic equipment, clothing and props.

Scott Lancaster sat with Mike Quigley, both Fun Flicks technicians, and controlled the filming. Students were given the choice of music from over 850 selections, or they were allowed to supply their own.

Then, by lip-syncing and dancing, Lancaster would overlay the green screen with a dynamic background. The students, who would most likely be dressed up in costume, were filmed while they danced.

The video was shown on a projector screen while it was being filmed and the final version was burned onto a DVD. Each student who participated in the filming received a copy of the DVD; up to five copies were given out.



MICHELE HESTER / Compass Staff

Andre Cheek, second from left, leads a group of students in a music video Nov. 3 in the Student Activities building. Cheek, director of minority affairs and multicultural programs, participated in the Fun Flicks special effects show.

"Student Activities contacted us about coming," Lancaster said. "We're strictly audience-oriented."

Students were not the only ones getting caught up in the action.

Andre Cheek, director of minority affairs and multicultural programs, was found dancing with a group of students.

"I always participate in student activities functions," Cheek said. "It always encourages students to participate, and to give them a feel of (the faculty) in a normal sense."

"A lot of the time, students don't view us as being everyday people. I try to make them feel comfortable by joining them in their normal settings."

15 Clubs Cook Off for Charity Chili Event

By April Landry

Campus Life Editor
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More than 15 Gainesville College clubs and organizations participated in the third-annual Chili Cook-off, sponsored by the Office of Multi-Cultural Affairs at noon Oct. 29 in the Student Activities building.

The money raised by selling tickets to the cook-off was donated to Challenged Child and Friends charity, and the Latin American Missionary Programs (LAMP).

These nonprofit organizations work with children and people with mild to severe special needs and disabilities.

"I try to teach the students to give back to the community through fundraising and outreach," said Andre Cheek, the head of Minority Affairs and Multi Cultural Programs. "Each year, we learn something different. We have a larger turnout every year."

Many clubs, such as Second Wind, ran out of chili early. "At least a hundred students came by and tasted our chili," said Brenda Adams, advisor for Second Wind. Tina Worthington, who made the chili for Second Wind, added a special ingredient - V8 juice.

The Art Club also sold hand made pottery bowls, ranging from two to four dollars, to raise money for the charity.

The Politically Incorrect Club, represented by Margaret Burriss and Lauren Hackney, made two different versions of chili: the first was called "Hot" for the liberals and the other was called "Middle of the Road" for the more moderate chili taster.

The winning chili was made by finance major Anoop Bhandari, who represented the Student Government Association.

"We're excited that we won because the money goes to a great cause to help the children. Thanks to everyone who put this all together," said SGA representative Erica Rush.

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CAMPUS LIFE BRIEFS

Chinese to be Offered at GC

Beginning Chinese will be offered spring semester. The course name is MLAN 2904, and the CRN is 5027. Time and place are TBA, and will be chosen to fit the schedule of those who are interested. If you have any questions, please contact Dr. Gille at cgille@gc.peachnet.edu.

GC Students Can Travel to Germany

A course is currently available for May 2004 that will be traveling to Germany. The group will be traveling to Heidelberg, Berlin, Munich, Rhineland, Neuschwanstein, and Dresden. The cost of the trip is \$1850, and some scholarship money is available. For answers to questions, contact Susann Doyle at 770-718-3857, or Diane Cook at 770-718-3896.

Disabled Children Present Art in Student Center

On Wednesday, Oct. 29, over 75 children from various Hall County schools piled into the Student Center in recognition of Disabilities Week. The Student Center was used to exhibit the art work of several challenged students from Spout Springs Elementary, East Hall Middle School, and Flowery Branch High Schools. Each student was given a certificate in recognition of their efforts at the end of the exhibit.

International Fair Held at GC

By Blake Allen

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Students learned about other cultures and tasted authentic cuisine at the Gainesville College International Fair. The event was held on November 19 at noon in the Student Activities building to help students better understand cultures from around the world.

The fair was held during International Education Week and included things like music, food and currency.

Students had the opportunity to travel from booth to booth and take part in activities from countries such as Argentina, Puerto Rico, Poland, Ecuador and many others.

The event was sponsored by the International Student Association and Special Recognition Committee.

At the Ecuador Booth, student Matt Green explained his fascination with Ecuador's Boobies, the coastal bird that lacks intelligence.

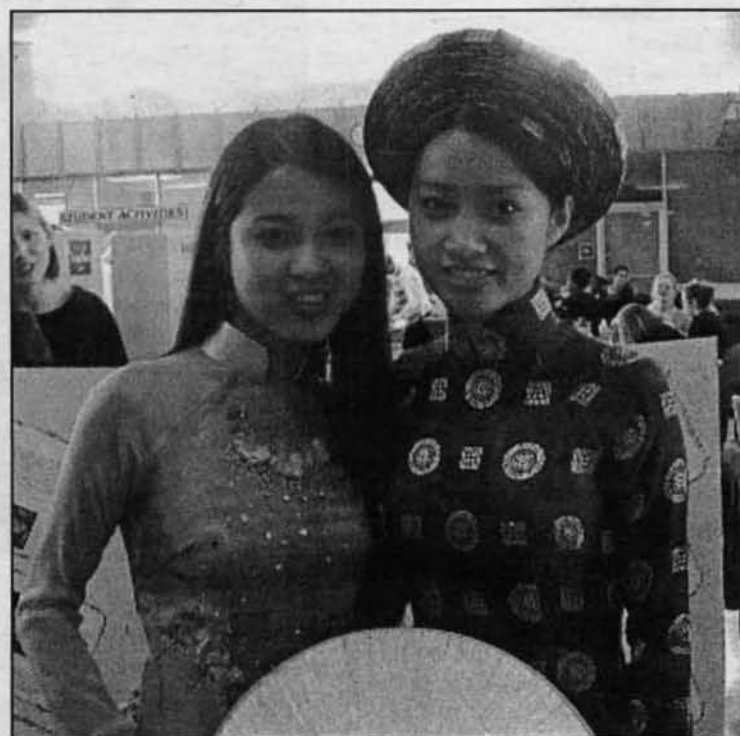
Emily Pham displayed her Vietnam poster-board while serving pork egg rolls in Vietnamese attire.

At the Argentina booth Robert Andreski proudly encouraged students to sample his enchiladas and mango juice, while over at the Philippines table students discussed the tarsier, the world's smallest monkey.

The fair was an informative get together among students with diverse interests and cultures.

Many students who participated in the fair dressed in traditional clothing from the countries that they represented.

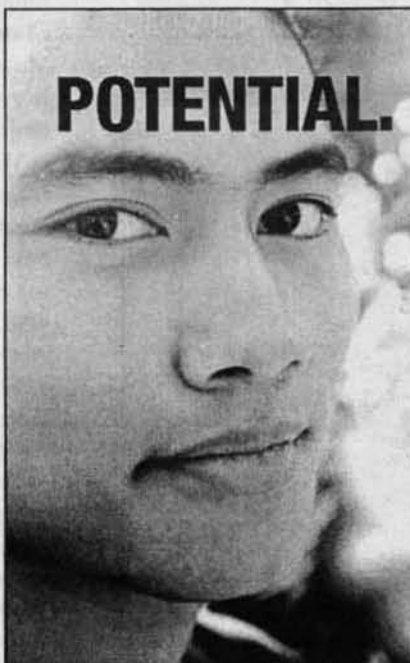
After much planning and hard work the fair proved to be a success that many students and faculty enjoyed.



BLAKE ALLEN / Compass Staff

GC students and sisters, Kieu Mai and Nhung Mai, are dressed in attire from Vietnam, their home country.

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Trinity Trot 5K Ends With Repeat Champs

By Jacob Pomrenke

Sports Editor

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West Hall High junior cross country runner Phillip Martin and local trainer Christina Gram repeated as overall male and female champions at the ninth-annual Trinity Trot 5K Road Race on Nov. 15 at Gainesville College.

Martin, who finished 32nd in last weekend's Class AAA cross country state meet, defended his overall title with a time of 18:38.69, almost 18 seconds better than his time last year.

Gram, who was eighth overall, ran an even 22:00 to repeat as female champion.

Christina Gram's father, John Gram, added to his collection of Trinity Trot trophies by winning the 55-59 age group with a time of 22:27.52 to finish ninth overall.

Rock Westmoreland was second to Gram in the same division.

It was also a family affair for others, as well. Caroline Newbern won the

women's 40-44 age group, and was 14th overall, while daughter Danielle Newbern won the mile in 9:55.

Husband and father Danny Newbern wound up 18th overall and fourth in the men's 40-44 division. That group was won by Chris Bennett in a time of 20:57.58. Darryl Camp was second in 40-44, with George South third.

Dianna Camp won the female 15-19 division at 27:51.87, as Brittany Massey was runner-up. Stacy Finelli, expecting her first child, won the women's 30-34 age group while husband Tony Finelli won the men's 35-39 group.

Other age group winners were: Grant Russell (male 14-and-under), Chris Lacomba (male 15-19), Brett Cave (male 25-29), Wally Enzor (male 30-34), Mike Stables (men's 45-49) and Jim Latimer (60-plus).

Female winners also included Cindy Crites (35-39), Nancy Woods (45-49), Judy Hulsey (50-54) and Mary Ann Harriman (60-plus).



SPECIAL / For The Compass

Participants in the ninth-annual Trinity Trot 5K race show off their individual awards on Nov. 15 at Gainesville College. The race ended with repeat winners in the overall male and female divisions. Phillip Martin, a junior cross country runner from West Hall High, captured his second straight male title, while Christina Gram, a local trainer, won her second consecutive female division crown. Danielle Newbern had her parents along to support her as she won the 1-mile race. "It was a perfect day to have the race," said Johnson High wrestling coach R. Garry Glenn, one of the race's organizers.

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Family
SPORTS PUBS

GC Gives Back to Education Club Hosts Book Drive

By Michele Hester

Editor-in-Chief

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The Gainesville College SGAE Education Club has a wish.

"We want to collect 4,000 books for three local elementary school libraries," said club president Charie Mehl.

Hall County has five elementary schools that are sharing library books. "There are just not enough books to go around," Mehl said.

The club, according to their Website, is a combination of GC education majors who meet to discuss educational problems facing Gainesville College and the surrounding community.

A flyer hung in Academic II says if everyone at GC donates one book to the book drive, the club will be way over their original plan. Monetary donations are also being accepted.



Charie Mehl, Education Club President, and Britney Compton look through the many books GC students have donated to the book drive.

The books can range from the kindergarten level up to fifth grade.

"Reading is an important part of every child's life," said Mehl. "Hopefully, the

book drive will be an encouragement for the children."

A box to drop off books is on the stage in the Student Activities building and will remain there until Dec. 5. The club also held a sale on Friday, Nov. 21 to raise money to buy more books. GC clubs, organizations, individuals and the public were invited to set up merchandise booths. Each participant donated 15 books and contributed \$15 to the cause.

During the week of Dec. 2-5, the club will sell Krispie Kreme donuts for students who are studying for final exams. The money raised will also go toward purchasing books for the elementary schools.

Education Club members will present the books to the schools on Dec. 10.

The Education Club meets every Wednesday at noon in Academic II, Room 157. Everyone is welcome. For more information, contact Charie Mehl at charie18@aol.com.

MICHELE HESTER / Compass Staff

Local Elementary Students Have Fun at Fall Carnival

By Kanesha Bailey

Contributing Writer

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Each year Gainesville College hosts a Fall Carnival for local elementary school children sponsored by the Student Government Association. The carnival was Oct. 24 from 11:30 until 1:15. Kindergartners from Oakwood and White Sulfur elementary schools, who are partners in education with GC, will be the featured guests.

The event is usually geared around Halloween but in the past has been in November. Various clubs on campus were invited to participate in the festivities. Each group was responsible for providing activities for the children as well as handing out goody bags. Activities included

face painting by the Art Club, a bean bag toss, cake walk, and fishing games. Club participants use the Carnival as an escape back to their childhood by dressing up as their favorite characters while entertaining the children.

When asked what he thought about the GC Fall Carnival, John Furst, president of the Anime club, said, "I think it's great for children around the area. They have fun and it feels good to help out."

Brenda Adams, coordinator of student activities, said, "The fall carnival is a special day for all involved because of the time and effort put forth."

Decorations for this event begin Oct. 23 with club members adding finishing touches to what was an exciting and successful event for all.

Charitable Chili Cook-off



APRIL LANDRY / Compass Staff

More than 15 GC clubs and organizations participated in the Third Annual Chili Cook-off held on Oct. 29. Over \$300 was raised and will be donated to two local charities. Challenge Child and Friends Inc is a center that works with local children from six weeks to 6-year-olds who have special needs including: cerebral palsy, Down syndrome, hearing loss, visual impairment, and other physical ailments. The second charity is the Latin American Missionary Program Ministries. L.A.M.P. works with troubled teens from 10 to 20-years old. Many teens are on probation and some are involved in gangs.

the Community

BSU Collects Coats for Local Needy and Supports Children All Over the World

By Christina Kelley

Calendar Editor

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As the holidays quickly approach, some children look forward to unwrapping the gifts under their Christmas trees while others dream of a warm coat and a place to lay their heads.

Along with many others who are contributing to the less fortunate, Gainesville College students in the Baptist Student Union are conducting a coat and blanket drive and collecting gifts for the Operation Christmas Child outreach.

Operation Christmas Child is the largest Christmas charity in the world.

An estimated 7 million suffering children in more than 100 countries on six continents will receive personal, gift-filled shoe boxes. For many of these children, the shoe box gift will be the first gift they have ever received.



When asked how long these drives will run, Justin Freeman, BSU president, said, "Both the coat and blanket drive and the collection of gifts for Operation Christmas Child will run until the November 18.

"So far we have collected eight or nine boxes and almost 40 coats and blankets."

BSU dropped off the gift boxes at the Operation Christmas Child Headquarters in Alpharetta on October 20, and the coats and blankets were donated to the Set Free Ministry station in Buford on November 19.

BSU meets every Wednesday at noon in Lanier A and B. Everyone is welcome. For information on either charity, contact Justin Freeman.

Local Charities that Need Help

Throughout the year, non-profit agencies across Hall County need community volunteers, but during the holidays, the need grows tremendously.

Below is a listing of over 30 area organizations that could use your help.



American Cancer Society (770) 297-1176

American Red Cross (770) 532-8453

Atlanta Union's Mission (770) 534-1435

Boys and Girls Clubs of Hall County
(770) 532-8102

Challenged Child and Friend, Inc.
(770) 535-8372

Gainesville/Hall County Safe Kids
(770) 533-8095

Gainesville Care Center (770) 535-1413

Gateway House Battered Women's Shelter (770) 536-5860

The Guest House (770) 535-1487

Good News Community Health Center
(770) 503-1369

Habitat for Humanity (770) 886-4939

Hand in Hand Hospice (770) 533-8556

Humane Society of Hall County (770) 532-6617

Jones Elementary School (770) 534-3939

Gainesville/Hall County Alliance for Literacy (770) 531-4337

Lyman Hall Reading Project (770) 718-3893

March of Dimes, Northeast Georgia Division (770) 534-1332

My Sister's Place (770) 532-5111

Pine Oak Health and Rehabilitation Center (770) 967-2070

The Salvation Army (770) 534-7589

Hunting for the Hungry

By Matt Henderson

Clubs Editor

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For many clubs and organizations the holidays mean the annual canned food drive, serving lunch at a local homeless shelter, or manning a post to ring a bell and encourage passers by to drop their change into one of those red buckets that become a fixture at local malls around Christmas time.

The president of the Students for Environmental Awareness (SEA) club at GC had something a little different in mind for giving back to the community this holiday season.

Drew Carter took part in the 10th annual "Hunters for the Hungry" venison collection on the first and second of November at the Hall County Farmers' Market.

The "Hunters for the Hungry" program encourages deer hunters to bring their day's kill to the Hall County Farmers' market where volunteers process the meat and load it onto refrigerated trucks.

The venison is then sent to the Atlanta Food Bank where it is distributed to homeless individuals and families throughout metro Atlanta.

Most of the event's volunteers come from Sealey's Deer Processing and the Hall County Department of Corrections. However one GC student joined their ranks on a cold Saturday morning in November.

Drew Carter was the lone representative of SEA volunteering at "Hunters for the Hungry."

"I usually came home covered in blood," said Carter, whose obligations ranged from administering paper work to hanging deer in refrigerated trucks. "The best part of volunteering was interacting with the hunters. I was very impressed with their attitudes about offering their time and skills to help the hungry."

"Hunters for the Hungry" will resume November 29 and 30.

SEA is asking any GC student who wishes to offer his or her service to come out and help from 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. at the Hall County Farmers' Market.

GC Students Trustworthy

Wallets Returned Safely in SIFE Study

By Blake Allen

Assistant Editor
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Students In Free Enterprise conducted a creative study on campus in October to celebrate National Business Ethics Month.

As the month of October rolled around, SIFE president Jamiee Baptiste and her group were trying to figure out an innovative way to stress the importance of practicing business in an ethical and socially responsible manner to GC students.

The SIFE team decided to strategically place wallets around campus to see if they would be returned.

SIFE took the time to create three "lost" wallets: two women's and one man's. The wallets were filled with money, credit cards, pictures, bank receipts and personal identification.

These "lost" wallets were placed in the ACTT Center, the library and the Student Activities building.

To the club's surprise, all the wallets were

returned within 24 hours in exactly the same condition as they had been placed around campus; no money or credit cards were missing.

Stunned by their findings, SIFE decided to place all three wallets in the Student Activities building during the BSA Chili Cook-off.

The Cook-off played host to many students, as well as nonstudents. This study was designed to test the ethics of a large group in a confined space.

The SIFE team believed that at least one wallet would come up missing but, to its surprise, all three wallets were returned intact once again.

Finally, the wallets were placed in classrooms in every academic building, the wallets again were all returned.

When asked what the results of the study suggest about GC students, Baptiste said, "The GC faculty, staff, students and visitors are very honest and ethical people."

Gainesville College students proved to be ethical and do the morally right thing by returning all lost wallets.

SIFE tested GC students' ethics and the students passed with flying colors.

Politically Incorrect Club

Welcomes All Opinions

By Michelle Barrett

Contributing Writer
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With debates of world issues at the forefront, members of the Politically Incorrect Club raise their opinions at noon every Monday.

Sponsored by faculty advisor and associate professor of political science Douglas Young, the Politically Incorrect Club has students involved with group activities, socials and weekly meetings. Members meet in room 101 of the Academic II building in room 101 to debate and discuss current issues of the student's interests.

"We bandy about whatever issues are on student's minds each day," Young said. "We slide from one topic into a related one and end up discussing five or six before the hour is out," added Young. Such topics as abortion, the presidential election campaign and taxation have raised student's voices this semester.

"My favorite part of the club is really the energy and openness of the meetings," said Brandi Hollis, a Gainesville College student. "Everyone has a really great attitude," added Hollis.

The club has had several guest speakers including, GBI Special Agent Jeff Brannon, a U.S. Army Intelligence Sergeant, and Nosleivys Falcon, a refugee from Cuba. Young expressed how "endlessly fascinating" Falcon's story was.

"She had the most dramatic story," he said.

On Oct. 24, members participated in the Fall Festival, allowing area kindergartners to use Georgia's new electronic voting machines as they voted for their favorite color, place to visit and TV character.

Any student is welcome to join the Politically Incorrect Club.

ELEGANT EXPRESSIONS CAFE MENU

LOCATED IN THE STUDENT CENTER

2 Hotdog's \$1.00 Cheeseburger Combo \$3.89 Mega Loaded Nachos \$1.99 Grilled Cheese Sandwich \$1.99 Chicken Tenders Combo \$4.19

Subs and Deli Sandwiches
any way you want it!
\$3.65

Philly Steak and Cheese Combo
\$5.50

Chicken or Lamb Gyro Combo
\$5.30

Breakfast
Full Breakfast Served Every Morning

2 Huge Pancakes \$1.29

Huge Croissant Anyway

You Like It \$2.55

Sausage Biscuit \$1.29

Bacon, Egg and Cheese Biscuit \$1.99

Steak Biscuit \$1.39

Chicken Biscuit \$1.39

French Toast \$1.99

Gravy Biscuit \$1.09

Snack Bar

Coffee
Cappuccino
Hot Tea
Assorted Drinks
Large Muffins
Cereal
Cereal Bars
Fruit
Yogurt
Pop Tarts
Bagels

**Lunch Special
Thursday and
Friday**

Huge Pizza Slice \$1.99
Full Salad Bar - All You
Can Eat \$3.49
Soup

**Full Hot
Bar Everyday,
Except Friday**





Annaray Captivated Audience at 40 Watt

If you're a fan of The Pixies, My Bloody Valentine or Sebedoh then you might want to check out a local Athens band that claim to get their greatest influences from them.

Annaray has been together for a little over three years now and play regularly at Athens' clubs like the 40 Watt. Chris Uhde, 26, the lead singer, and Lamar Flowers, 30, the drummer, started the band and soon brought aboard BJ Bracewell, 24, the lead guitarist, and Bubba McDonald, 23, the bass guitarist. They have made two CDs since forming the

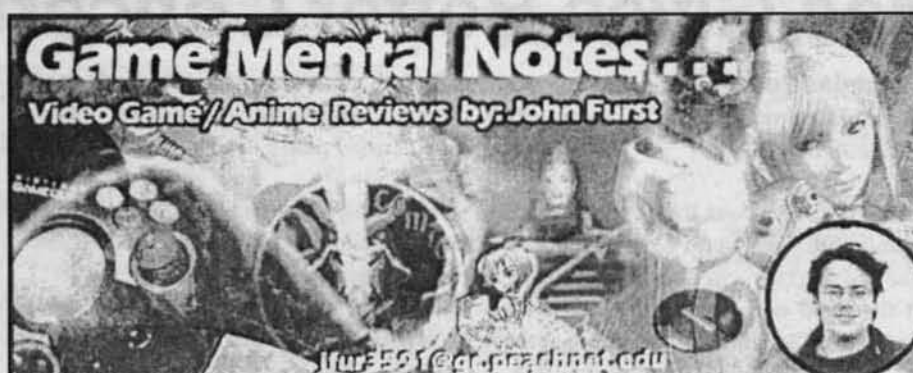


band and they write all their own music. Their first album, "Theodore," made it to #64 in the College Music Journal. Their second album, self-titled "Annaray," was actually produced and paid for by Dave Schools of Widespread Panic. Though they would like to be signed one day, they aren't pushing it too hard at the moment because they each have other commitments and such taking up their time. They would also like to save up their money for the time when they do decide to really pursue their dream of getting signed. They have played in several different places, including Charlotte, Columbia and Charleston, SC, Philadelphia, PA and New York.

Flowers, a Photography and Graphic Design major at Gainesville College said, "Chances are the more people you play to, the next time you come through they're going to remember you and maybe bring friends. So you can expand your audience by playing to more people."

Annaray played at The 40 Watt on Oct. 30 to a packed house. Their stage presence was extremely captivating as they were very animated. Uhde kept things pumping with his mischievous antics and Flowers was an entity unto his own as he pounded on his drums. In fact, there was a camera man there filming and he seemed to have a hard time keeping his camera off of Flowers, his presence on stage was that intense. Not to say the two guitarists weren't holding their own, they were just as expressive in their performance.

Micki Davis, an Art major at GC said, "Before I had heard Annaray, my friends would exclaim their utmost allegiance to a band I only knew of by hearsay. Now I've heard them and I am the one pledging my allegiance to them."



Great Cast + Great Story = One Great Anime

Rating: 9

One guy, a group of girls, and a single household are the perfect ingredients for my favorite type of anime: comedy. "Love Hina" takes all these and blends them together in a perfect formula full of detailed animation, and a soundtrack everyone should pick up or else. Unlike most comedies in this genre, "Love Hina" is one that people of almost any type can relate to on one level or another.

This is a comedy about Tokyo University would-be Keitaro Urashima trying to fill a childhood promise with a girl before she moved away. They promise they would meet again together at Tokyo University. Keitaro plans to keep that promise, because she was the only girl that ever truly liked him. He's now in his third year of prep school and still struggling to get into TU. His grandmother goes on an extended vacation and puts Keitaro in charge of the Hinata apartments, a place he remembers from his childhood. Only now, Hinata apartments are an all-girls dorm.

Throughout the series Keitaro is put in perverted situations and uncomfortable circumstances as he tries to make it at the apartments while still studying for TU. The whole situation screams hilarity from the start.

Every so often we get a glimpse of what he thinks is the girl from his past, but the longer he takes to make the grade, the harder it is to remember her.

Each of the girls has very distinct personalities that make Keitaro's stay more interesting. Bouncy Kaolla, shy Shinobu, sexy and easy going Kitsune, aggressive Naru Narusegawa and even the studious and chase Motoko play off each characteristic almost to an extreme. Their voices are great in Japanese and emphasize these character traits, but the

English dubbing is horrendous and even painful. Keitaro sounds more like a sissy, asthmatic, whiny, DnD super geek than a college would be. Kitsune has a southern bell accent in the English that is a major turn off for my favorite character. This is because her voice in Japanese has the basic equivalent. Plus, English dialog sounds very scripted and little acting was used to pull of true emotion. Bottom line, watch this series subtitled or you'll hate it fast.

While voice acting may scare people away, the music is something that everyone should run out to buy. If I had money, I know I would buy the soundtracks. A little rock, a little techno, and an Asian flavor mixed in a happy blender. This anime obviously had a large budget to work with. Things like color and detail, music and dialect are all on the money all the way through. They might have run out of money though when localizing it. This is a series everyone could love, as long as they stay away from the English Dialog.



kawaii.nl/gallery.asp

Naru Narusegawa in the Hinata Apartments Hot Spring

Mac Gives Better Concert Now Than Ever Before

By Douglas Young
Associate Professor
of Political Science

How thrilling it was to spend a joyous evening with Fleetwood Mac on Sept. 7 at the Gwinnett Arena and how uplifting that the band performed far better than the last time I saw them in the Omni at the peak of its "Rumours" stardom in 1978. Sadly, that group was polluted by fresh bitter romantic break-ups and a sour vibe fueled by cocaine, booze and bruised egos. Each member appeared ensconced in his own private world on stage.

But this time it was as if the big Mac had emerged from a rock 'n' roll looking glass infinitely more vibrant and harmonious. Having swapped scotch and blow for Perrier and soda, the band was much livelier. Drummer Mick Fleetwood was grinning manic energy personified — at 60! Cleaner brains also make crisper notes. It wasn't just a better sound system that accounted for the superior music. In contrast to the late '70s anti-

glitz ambience, this Mac attack shouted showmanship, as it should have, considering I paid \$75 this time compared to just \$8 in '78.

It was also heartening to see how happy the group appeared. In contrast to the complete dearth of smiles in 1978, the 2003 Mac hugged, kissed, and danced with each other throughout.

Their voices have held up well too, and they actually played 40 minutes longer than 25 years ago. With such a large catalogue of songs now, it was also refreshing that they shared lots more non-hit nuggets than most FM giants do. There was a satisfying mix of selections from many LPs.

Fleetwood Mac also boasted a fuller, more textured sound. In addition to the four charter members, there was a pair each of rhythm guitarists, percussionists and back-up singers. Other improvements included a much more high-tech, yet pretty and understated, light show as well as big video screens above the stage for fans in the back of the auditorium.

Lindsey Buckingham's guitar work was breathtaking in styles, precision and guitar god antics. I lost count of how many guitars he played. But, while always intense, he was never too heavy.

Stevie Nicks, my ultimate fantasy in high school (big sigh), was ever enchanting. That mesmerizing voice especially stood out on such signature standards as "Gold Dust Woman," "Silver Springs" and "Gypsy," all the more so because she was singing of her former self.

The rotation of Nicks and Buckingham songs made for a good yin-yang balance, like on their latest record, his leather to her lace. Goosebumps time was when the long ago lovers stood alone singing the tender acoustic "Landslide," "Say Goodbye" and "Goodbye Baby" to each other.

Enhancing the entire experience was the improved venue atmosphere over that of 1978. There was no thick cloud of pot smoke this time. In fact, not one cancer stick was smelled either. Now the audience included many families and even a 60-year-old waving his lighter during the encore.

Time still extracts its price. Sexy little Stevie has ballooned a bit, like Fleetwood and bassist John McVie. She doesn't twirl in her black chiffon as much as before, though she once still made me dizzy just watching her — and she's 55! Nor was her stunning "Rhiannon" as intense as before.

I also couldn't completely forget the absent Christine McVie who had always supplied such lovely singing and danceable Mac standards. Her MIA status led to a harder rock show than some might prefer. Lord knows it was at least as loud as in the seventies, even with earplugs this time.

But Buckingham put it best when he mused that "It's been a long, difficult, strange trip, but what matters most is that we're still here." Indeed, grateful band members repeatedly thanked the audience not just for the night, but for their entire career. At 41, it is inspiring when folks 54 to 60 can improve so with age. In fact, no other '70s rock band has had such an innovative return. It makes one want to sing "Don't stop thinking about tomorrow."

Scor-pi-ooooo: Say "Merry

Christmas" this year by cleaning your house, picketing "FOR SALE" in your yard and giving your entire family two weeks to move their trailers off your property.

Sagittarius: Whether you

confiscated your friend's favorite waffle maker on purpose or it fell in your bag you need to return it and no questions will be asked.

Capricorn: Lovers will suffer

numerous Dutch Ovens cuddling with you this holiday season, proof that flatulent people can be good-looking and popular.

Aquarians: If you worry about

what clothes you can't fit into you should plan to be cremated in lieu of being buried. Just think of all the places people could compact you into.

Pisces: If you feel as if people

don't listen to you maybe you should try talking in close proximity to them. The more of your saliva they wear on their face the more they hear you.



Aries: If you win BIG money

remember to forget everyone that ever helped you because what you buy with the money is ALL that matters now.

Taurus: You will avert a domestic

dispute by offering the arguing couple key lime pie.

Gemini: Do not be offended with

people if they mistake you for a Matt or Chris, both names are pretty and can be worn with fall colors.

Cancer: Nothing says "happy

holidays" like bribing your co-workers with incriminating photos you will take at the out of control Christmas party.

Leo: Wishing for snow is healthier

than letting your dandruff build up on a black sweater.

Virgo: Every time you are

arrested an angel gets his wings.

Disclaimer: These horoscopes should be followed accordingly and all tomagotchis should be sent to PO Box 421, Walla Walla, WA.

Libra: All drive-thru cashiers are

Santa's Little Fast Food helpers and they spread holiday cheer by saying, "thank you and please drive through to the second window."

Monthly Horoscopes

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THE VOICE OF THE COMPASS

Spend the Holidays

Giving to Those Who Need Our Help

As the semester comes to a close, many students are making plans for their holiday breaks. Many of us will be working and some will be taking much-needed vacations to exotic places. Still others will have the luxury of spending almost an entire month relaxing at home with no responsibilities at all.

Whatever your plans are for the holidays, we should all take a few minutes to remember the individuals who are in need of our help. Think about the children who are cold and hungry, about the elderly who cannot afford medications to keep them well. Think about the parents who cry themselves to sleep at night because they cannot give their children the luxuries they wish they could.

All over the world, people are suffering while we are comfortably nestled in front of fires, eating grandma's turkey dinner and apple pie, with roofs over our heads and enough money to spare at least a few bucks.

Some of us give our extra change to the Salvation Army volunteer "elves" who stand out in front of department stores with their holiday bells. Without the extra change from our pockets, more children would be hungry, more elderly people would be unable to afford medicine and more parents would not be able to give their children the things they need.

But there are other groups worthy of our support. Charitable organizations do wonderful things all over the world and right here in our communities. But without help from so many volunteers, these organizations could not succeed in their efforts to help the needy.

So this holiday season, when you find you have some time to spare, do something good for someone else. Make a difference in someone's life by volunteering at a homeless shelter, caroling at a nursing home or collecting coats and blankets to donate to the local missions. There are so many different organizations that need help. So don't just sit there in front of that warm fire while others are cold, hungry and sick. Someone out there needs your help.

Changing GC's Activity Hour Will Do More Harm than Good

The proposed change in Gainesville College's activity hour is a bad idea. Supporters of the change are not considering the students' best interest.

As GC is a two-year college, a co-curricular transcript is very important when trying to transfer to another college or university. But what will happen when GC's activity hour is reduced to just two days a week, a plan that Dean Stoy has suggested would better serve students and faculty?

The answer is that students will have fewer opportunities to participate in extracurricular activities. An extensive co-curricular transcript may be the deciding factor between two equally academic students when an acceptance board at a university must choose only one applicant.

There is also the inconvenience that will enter into the picture if the activity hour is changed. Many clubs and organizations on campus have met at the same hour on the same day for years.

Many students schedule their classes far in advance to guarantee they can participate in certain clubs and organizations. Some of those same clubs and organizations, including this newspaper, depend on the Monday-Wednesday-Friday activity hours to complete tasks that are vital to GC.

There will also be problems for students who want to participate in more than one club, organization or activity. Students will be forced to choose between going to club meetings and watching colloquium speakers for extra credit points, both of which are additional benefits to their co-curricular transcripts.

Students at GC take their education seriously and many chose this school because the faculty and administration are known for caring about how their students grow as intellectuals. Changing the activity hour would give students another hour for academic study, but there is more to receiving a fulfilling college education than just going to classes.

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If you would like to respond
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any of the articles that
appear in the Compass,
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or stop by the office.

It's Better To Give Than To Receive

Around the Compass office, I am known as the Queen of Clichés. I must admit that I do use them more than the average bear.

However, in this circumstance, I feel that this one is not only appropriate but true. I love the Christmas season and I love receiving gifts but what about those who have nothing to look forward to? That is why I want to make our student body aware of the many opportunities to contribute for a better Christmas.

For many charities, the Christmas season is the peak season for donations and contributions. Some charities only exist for the short holiday season. For those who feel inspired to make a difference, here is a list of local organizations that are in need of supporters.

Hall County Humane Society: This organization houses thousands of homeless animals who are in need of a loving family. However pet adoption is not their only need, they need volunteers to wash, walk and even play with the animals until they become adopted. Food and newspapers are always needed.

The Gateway House: The Gateway House is a rescue home for women and their children who have escaped from abusive situations. Currently these families cannot financially afford a Christmas for their children so the Gateway House is asking for companies, individuals or families to adopt a resident and provide them with a special Christmas.

Adopt-a-Cop Program: This is a relatively new program that sends a fatherless child with a Hall County police officer on a shopping spree for Christmas. The child not only purchases for themselves but also for other members of their family. This program is sponsored by the Gainesville Police department and to contribute any amount of money just contact them.

Good News at Noon: A long-standing organization that feeds the homeless and hungry in the Gainesville community. Volunteers are the main necessity for this organization; however, a recent request for hand soap was mentioned.

American Red Cross: If money is not something you can part with, then donate your blood. The American Red Cross is always in need of donations to fulfill the blood shortage in Georgia. A donation only takes about 20 minutes and can make a difference that will last a lifetime.

The Salvation Army: The simple act of donating your old clothes, stuffed animals, toys, books and even furniture is appreciated by the community members of Gainesville that count of the Salvation Army for their daily needs. Drop boxes are located around Gainesville and money can be donated as well.

Secret Santa: To adopt a family and make their Christmas come true, contact the Department of Children and Family Services.

This list of needy organizations is a mile long.

However if this is not enough to inspire you to contribute, all of these services can be used as a tax write-off. I have learned that when you make a difference in someone's life, you will see a change in your own. Please make a contribution.

Opinions
Editor
Natalie
Simmons



Oconee Opinions

Parking Passes: What's the Use?

By Erin Mullineaux
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You see them everyday; the small, green, plastic parking passes hanging from students' rear-view mirrors. However, what's their purpose? Daily, cars are scattered throughout the Oconee campus without these ridiculous passes and so far no consequences.

The student consensus is "no". The initial goals of these permits were to keep people who are not students off campus. Sometimes it is difficult to distinguish students from non-students do to the new campus in Oconee County.

The required fine for an absent parking permit is \$10,

but the Oconee Campus has no employees to enforce these fines. This soon will change.

Oconee issues warnings for students not hanging permits. After the first warning, tickets will be issued according to the previous fees. To register in spring you must have paid all fines.

The Many Ways Drinking Can Affect Your GPA

By Katy Briner
Oconee Staff Writer
kbr15810@gc.peachnet.edu

The transition from high school to college is never easy.

Suddenly, for the first time, students are out on their own, with newfound freedoms to do whatever they want. For many students, this involves more partying than studying.

Going out with friends is definitely a part of the college experience, but many freshmen have problems finding that balance between partying and studying.

Many bars in downtown Athens offer drink specials and "ladies nights" during the week to boost their business, which encourages students to go out on weeknights.

All too often, this results in students failing to study or missing class, due to hangovers.

An unofficial survey of GC students revealed that 41 percent thought partying negatively affected their grades.

Aboutcollege.com also stated similar findings. Students with failing grades reported

consuming on average almost three times more alcohol than students with "A" averages.

Although it is a more prevalent problem among freshmen, excessive partying affects students in all years of study. According to the Task Force on College Drinking, 25 percent of students admitted "academic consequences" because of their partying.

With so much evidence, showing that too much partying is detrimental to academic performance, why are students still going out every night?

We All Only Get One Chance

All the world needs is a lesson in acceptance. The next time you take a look in the mirror, take a moment to examine who is looking back at you.

Are we defined by our skin color, religion, sexual preference or political affiliation?

I would like to believe that while these things play an important role in many of our lives that they make us no more special or inadequate than anyone else.

Do we not all bleed red? Do we not all find

joy and sorrow in a lifetime?

The truth is that we all face only one certainty. White, Black, Asian, Hispanic, Christian, Muslim, Taoist, Straight, Gay, Left Wing, Right Wing; it doesn't matter, my friends, because all of us only get one shot at this thing.

The graves are shallow here and if you continue to discriminate and hate others you might find yourself six feet under way before you're ready.

I urge you to put aside your differences and seek strength of character in those who are different from you.

If we only take the time to understand others, we will overcome hatred, strife and find acceptance of one another.

Only believe in the things that believe in you and until next time, stay gold.

Assistant
Editor
Blake
Allen



'Sad' to be a Hockey Fan

I'm a hockey fan. I know, I know: we're in the South and college football is the second-biggest religion here.

But I'm a hockey fan. As such, I tend to wear a lot of hockey-related stuff.

I have three jerseys (although I only wear two - my Colorado Avalanche sweater is too precious to wear) and three Atlanta Thrashers shirts. I also have game pucks, posters, wall banners, you name it, but I won't go on about all those.

So the other day, this girl corners me and asks me why I can always be seen wearing hockey apparel. The conversation went like this:

"Why do you wear so much hockey stuff?"

"Because I like hockey..."

"Yeah, but do you even play?"

"No, I just like hockey."

Blake Duncan
News Editor



"Oh ... that's sad."

Sad? Sad?!? Why is it sad that I'm a hockey fan?

Hockey has arguably the greatest tradition of history and respect in the four major sports, rivaled only by baseball.

Yet, in the South, hockey gets about as much respect as Rodney Dangerfield.

At any rate, by her logic, I can't watch TV because I don't act, nor can I read books because I'm not a published author.

Heck, I can't even play video games because I don't program them.

Hockey, though, would seem to appeal to the average college football fan.

It's fast, it's violent and when the fighting ends, the real action begins. Hockey has gained in popularity here recently, but it's at a snail's pace.

Baseball and football continue to rule the South, but no one gives weird looks to people who wear baseball jerseys, football T-shirts or NASCAR caps.

But the moment someone puts on a hockey jersey, they become a target of ridicule and strange looks from the unknowing populace.

So the next time you see me or anyone else wearing a hockey jersey, just think for a moment how unique the sport is.

Maybe you'll find that you, too, can learn to love the coolest game on earth.

Hoping for HOPE

By Jason White

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Creating the HOPE scholarship was the best thing that Georgia government has done in a long, long time. Limiting HOPE may allow more students the opportunity for school; however, what about those whom that was their only hope. Sure, Georgia has budget problems. And yes, the state lottery, which finances HOPE grants, may be running out of juice. But is the budget that deprived that the state is prepared to backtrack and turn away thousands of students who counted on hope for a college education?

The enactment of HOPE by Zell Miller set us apart from the rest of the South. While other states in our region watched their systems of higher education plummet, ours prevailed and grew stronger. HOPE scholarships made it possible for hundreds of thousands of Georgia students to extend their education past high school. HOPE needs to be out of bounds for cutbacks.

Governor Sonny Perdue's proposal to attach SAT scores to HOPE eligibility is a bad idea. The governor believes that using the SAT measure would hold down the number of students who qualify for HOPE. He is certainly right about that. Trouble is, those who might benefit most from HOPE would be the first eliminated from consideration. What student can say that could not have done better on the SAT? I get test anxiety and with that stipulation, I would be ruled out!

Some say that the present B-average system of qualifying HOPE scholars is not practical because requirements for a B average at one school may be quite different from a B average at another school. The B-average rule has obviously resulted in grade inflation and, in many cases, unfairly qualified students for scholarships who had no chance of succeeding in college. A solution to the problem can exist without resorting to the SAT measure. Allow the state to conduct end-of-course tests to determine whether students have fully understood their subjects at a B-average level.

Meanwhile, let's find sources for additional funding for HOPE. Maybe cut out a road project or two. Or expand the lottery games. Tampering with HOPE should not be on the agenda for the Georgia legislation.

Velvet Is A Must For Winter Wardrobe

By Kaitlin Clark

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Winter is finally here and it is time to focus on your fashion. With cool weather moving in, we have a tendency to focus more on style. So mix warm colors with some earth tones to add depth and style.

Velour, satins, velvets, and basic cotton are a must this season. Denim and corduroy casual pants are stylish but most important are practical. As always, leather is important, red leather especially stylish and a staple for any wardrobe. Remember red can be paired with brown or black.

The vintage look is still going strong with shiny fabrics and fake fur. The pointed toe sling-back heels may not be comfortable but they are stylish and trendy so who cares if you get a blister. Accessorizing is another point to remember when dressing stylishly.

Hats, scarves, and gloves are all very important when finishing off that perfect outfit. However, for those less fashionable, here are some of my tips to make you a successful fashion do. Patterns are great as long as you don't over do them.

Diagonal lines give a slimmer look, and off-the-shoulder shirts and dresses are sexy on almost everyone. While chunky necklaces and bracelets can spice up almost any outfit, the most important advice for fall is to just have fun.



MICHELE HESTER / Compass Staff

Isa Cruz shows off her lae scarf, a perfect accessory to her vintage-style dress. Cruz, a fashion marketing major at Gainesville College, is always dressed to the nines in the latest fashions.

THE COMPASS
is looking for writers
and photographers
for the spring semester.

Email Michele Hester at
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for more information.

GC Holds First Speech Contest

16 Oconee Students Compete

By Michele Hester
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Lately there has been a lot of talk concerning the lack of student activities at the Gainesville College Oconee campus.

Those complaints may now be over, because the First Annual GC Speech Contest was held Nov. 12 at the Oconee campus with a turnout of over 100 spectators and 12 participants.

Each Oconee communication class nominated one or two students to participate in the contest. Students spoke on topics of their choosing ranging from diabetes to toothpaste to snow boarding. Most of the speeches were revisions of speeches the students previously gave in their communication classes and could not be more than six minutes long.

Allison Ainsworth, a GC communication instructor, headed the contest and said, "I think the contest

was fantastic, and the speakers gave excellent presentations."

"I am proud to be able to facilitate an event where more students are given the opportunity to exercise their freedom of speech in this manner," Ainsworth said.

Romeen Khakzad won \$100 for his speech on muscular dystrophy.

The second place prize of \$50 went to John Smith for his speech on *Raising a Family: North versus South*.

Teresa Lopes' speech about Columbia Relief Money won her \$25.

The panel of judges consisted of two GC English professors, Dan Cabaniss and Robert Croft, and one student, April Gore.

An activity hour has also now been set for Oconee for the upcoming semester. The free period set aside for more student activities will be Monday, Wednesday and Friday at noon until 1 p.m.

In Spring semester, a speech contest will be held at the main GC campus. For more information, contact Humanities department.



BRITNEY COMPTON / Compass Staff

Lopes, Khakzad and Smith proudly show off their speech contest awards.

Eating Vegetarian in Athens

By Elizabeth Bishop
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If you are vegetarian, want to be vegetarian or just wish to enjoy a healthy meal, Athens offers a great selection of vegetarian and vegetarian friendly restaurants and stores.

The Grit (199 Prince Ave. 543-6592) is an Athens staple with all types of homemade vegetarian food.

They have a daily veggie board, soups, salads, sandwiches, and a host of entrées. My favorite is the house salad with tofu cubes and honey-mustard dressing.

Bluebird (493 E. Clayton St. 549-food) is the place to go for Sunday brunch. It won't be as crowded as **The Grit** and the food is delicious. They have a lot of Indian inspired dishes and of course your daily veggies. They are open from 8-3, so if you want to try their food go early!

The Green Scene is Athens' newest edition. They offer 100% vegan meals, fresh squeezed juices, and the best-baked goods around. Their BBQ tempeh sandwich is one of my favorites, but try to save room for their molasses cookies, which will make you a loyal customer.

Bombay Café (151 E. Broad St. 369-1930) is the place to go for inexpensive

vegetarian Indian food! Check out the lunch buffet, and ring the bell on the way out to say thanks.

Thai of Athens (2033 W. Broad St. 354-8284) offers an extensive vegetarian and vegan menu along with your traditional Thai and Chinese cuisine.

Funds are sometimes limited for college students, so if you're eating in, there are three great health food stores. Don't forget your student ID.

The Daily Co-op has a small variety of seasonal veggies, with many coming from local organic food farms. Look for the great sale items, too.

The Phoenix is the place to get all your bulk food and vitamins.

They also have a small variety of fresh veggies and other foods as well.

Earth Fare has a large produce section, aisles of yummy food, hot/cold bar and a Deli.

Our society has advanced way past the societies of hunter-gathers where meat was needed to sustain health.

In the year 2003 there are so many different alternatives to eating meat. Athens has a wonderful awareness that is evident through the variety offered.

Try a vegetarian meal; your conscious will weigh light and your belly full.